

Theatrical Cossip.

The Columbia Theater last night closed their first season of summer comedy and their first season of theatrical life. It is nobody's business what they have done financially, though there is every reason to believe that the year has been profitable. Consideration of the methods and effects of the recent nine weeks of comedy is more interesting.

The management tried a new policy. They believed that the public was tired of old faces and old plays, and wanted something new and refreshing. In accordance therewith, they engaged a large company, many of whom had never been heard of by our playgoers, and started for first nights. The list of the company looked well, and they took uncommonly good pictures, and to a certain number the idea of absolutely new plays was refreshing. But the management of the theater and the sporting editor who interpreted the phrase, "they have given us a new paper."

There was something missing in the stock season besides sufficient attendance to warrant its continuance. When you go to put your finger on the cause you find it resembles the Irishman's flea. Some will point out the management. Some will refer to the left-handedness of running a comedy company without a light comedian or leading comedienne. Of course, the first half of this deficiency was removed the last half of the season, when Will Rogers arrived. Others will say that in summer the people want old favorites—people and plays.

This is nearer the heart of the matter. As for people, look at Will Rogers. In "A Bad Lot" he gave caricatures of the "A. B. C." of anything else he did this summer. Yet the people saw none of his defects. He was badly abused from the first two hits. His first appearance was eagerly awaited. He always had a good reception, and hearty hands marked his exit from his worst scenes.

That was because the people knew, held him as a friend and a favorite, exaggerated his virtues, overlooked his faults, and even took a fraternal glee in finding them, half in the belief that it was more cleverness to point out a fault than to praise a virtue. A strong vote on the most popular member of the company would find Rogers well in front.

James Barrows, with a magnetic personality, a protean face that radiates fun, and an infinite capacity for future scenes, has made himself a personal favorite, and he will be missed from future summer stocks. Will Rogers, in four weeks, has created a following which will be faithful till next summer. This young man is manifestly a comedian. He is an artist, too. There is something in his delivery, his thought and consideration for the meaning of things.

There has not been a leading juvenile in Washington in years to compare with him, simply because there hasn't one, saying only Joe Bonomo. One young man has shown promise in small things. He is Walter Hale. If you don't know him now you will know him. Here's a trinity of the three best light comedians on our stage. Joe Holland, Will Rogers and Walter Hale.

As for old favorites in plays. Though the policy of the Columbia anchored itself on its proposal to produce new plays, by one of those salutary strokes which are not explained in the calculation of things, "Nobles," the oldest and most acted play put on, did the play the best. Last year at the National "Snowball," which has been played year after year, came very near making a similar record. At the Lafayette this year, old comic and grand opens packed the crowds in.

It is the Philadelphia's reduction of absurdity, perpetually joined in theatrical calculation. Arguments come to nothing. A season built on syllogisms is a house of cards.

Yet Messrs. Luckett and Conn are to be congratulated. They did everything in their power to provide a season of crisp, cooling, summer theatricals in an artistic manner. They made an inviting spot of their lobby; they put in an expensive ice blast to cool the house; they engaged a large and expensive company; the orchestra was superb; the scenery was in details were provided to perfect the patrons' pleasure. They are wide awake, energetic young men and deserve well of fortune.

In writing the season's requiem a good word must be said for Mr. Sandeman and his musicians. There isn't a better theater orchestra anywhere than the Columbia's. Henry Sandeman is a prime musician; he is an inspiration to his men, and he draws from them the limit of their possibilities. He has what is so often lacking in directors of music—a good taste in making his programs, as well as in playing them.

But the closing of the Columbia does not leave us without refreshment for the theatrical appetite. The National will tomorrow night light up its three-story electric frontage, whose brilliant glow seems in winter time to warm everything within its radiance, and within the electric fans will battle with the present article of weather. On the stage a new company will be seen.

Seasoned players, who know a few names besides those forced upon them in three letters, will recognize some good names in the company. The principal ones are William Courtney, Frederick Bond and Maury. The latter is a better theater orchestra anywhere than the Columbia's. Henry Sandeman is a prime musician; he is an inspiration to his men, and he draws from them the limit of their possibilities. He has what is so often lacking in directors of music—a good taste in making his programs, as well as in playing them.

Even if this company does close after this week, there will be another at the Columbia for Monday night of next week. Washington will pass on "The Marquis of Mithras," a new comedy by such well-known authors as Glen McDougall and Edwin Townsend. Mr. McDougall has given us such well-known plays as "Miss Dynamite," "The Prodigious Father" and "Innocent as a Lamb." Mr. Townsend's latest success was "Chimble Fadden," which was presented here last season and made such a favorable impression.

The cast is an all-star one, and includes such well-known people as George Nash, he of "small talk," fame, whose every move called forth a request for another small bit, and which made one of the big hits of "Chimble Fadden." Miss Marion Giron, who was much admired for her presence when seen here early last season in "My Friend from India." The balance of the company is made up of Miss Eva Davenport, Miss Sadie Stringham, Mr. George Barnum, Mr. Charles Jackson, Mr. William Porter, Miss Ethel McMillan, Mr. Nicholas Murphy, Mr. Robert Patten Givins, Miss Alice Pickley, Mr. George Green, Mrs. Flora Wideman, and the play will be produced under the direction of Mr. William H. Post.

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lasts only one week, then the house closes until the 13th of September, when the regular season will open.

One of the peculiarities of the Herald Square Theater, of New York city, is the remarkably few number of attractions that play there. This is not because the house is unpopular. On the contrary, it is because the pieces which have played there have been so successful that they have run a season at a time. Its first year it had "Puddin'head Wilson," the second year of its life it had "Heart of Maryland," and last year it had "The Girl from Paris."

The last is a gay musical comedy under the direction of E. E. Rice. It opened at that theater in the autumn of 1896 and closed a continuous run only this month to permit the company to have a short vacation before resuming again next month. On June 28 was celebrated the 250th performance.

The dramatic editor of the Times is indebted to the management of "The Girl from Paris" for the souvenir of this occasion. It is a handsome disc mirror, set in a type-shaped mounting of white metal. The whole effect is rich and elegant, and the souvenir will be greatly prized by all who have them.

We are in receipt also of Julius Kahn's "Theatrical Guide for 1897," which is a laborious compilation of nearly everything that went about the theaters of this country. It gives the dimensions of every playhouse, its capacity, its management, the names of the papers and dramatic editors of every city, and a variety of other information, all in the volume. But in a work of this kind accuracy is a greater quality than quantity, and it is to be hoped that the errors about Washington have not been repeated about other cities.

For instance, Nixon & Zimmerman are named as the managers of the Columbia, but in the case of the other theaters the managers are given. Perhaps this discrepancy means that the Columbia is to be the official dramatic theater in this city. In the list of dramatic editors, the Times man is spelled with an "O" and a "K," whereas the rest are spelled with an "O" and a "K." It is a mistake, but it is a mistake in the direction of the Columbia, which is a mistake in the direction of the Columbia, which is a mistake in the direction of the Columbia.

The seating capacity of the Bijou is given as 1,300. Mr. Kahn does not count in Louisiana, which does not count in "a party of theater." Then the Grand is put down for 1,544. The accuracy of the old figures is amusing. Two thousand is created a following which will be faithful till next summer. This young man is manifestly a comedian. He is an artist, too. There is something in his delivery, his thought and consideration for the meaning of things.

In the list of attaches several of the houses are named. "We would like to know their remedy for 'an off week,' how many pills will cure that tired feeling in the box-office and what powder will stimulate the house's percentages." "F. Arthur Smith," whom we used to know as "F. Arthur Smith," is, according to the guide, no longer treasurer of the National, having become press agent.

Morgan Sherwood appears to be leading a double life. Under his own name he is properly man at the National, but disguises himself as "Morgan Sherwood" to do the same job at the Academy. There is a list of actors and actresses in the back of the book, which is interesting as indicating, by the argument of omission, who are not actors and actresses.

The following members of the Columbia stock, who have all summer been masquerading as actors, are impostors by the guide and unrecognized: Messrs. Ingersoll, Bergman, Barrows, Bog, Jefferson, Hickman, Roberts, Messrs. Galtin, Berg, Larkin and Scott. Of the company at the National this week, Mr. Bond does not appear to be an actor. No more is Mr. Archibald or Mr. Holt. We didn't bother with others. Really, this is too much, Mr. Kahn.

Change of Bill at Glen Echo. An entire change in program is offered in the amphitheater at Glen Echo on the Potomac for the coming week under the direction of Manager Edwin Middleton. The vaudeville troupe of the National, twenty-five trained artists, will be heard every afternoon and evening in grand concert. The vaudeville specialties will include Van Leer and Barton, the kings of black-face comedy; the Brownings, the electric duo; and Emma Francis, the terpsichorean marvel. Three lines of electric cars run direct to the grounds. The Great Falls, Washington and Glen Echo, and Georgetown and Tenleytown, roads connect with the Capital Traction and Metropolitan lines. Vast improvements have been made in fitting up the grounds of this favorite pleasure resort. The cafe and restaurant are under the personal supervision of Mr. Charles Kauscher, late with Sherry, of New York, and the public are sure of being treated well in that department. A change of bill weekly will be given in the large amphitheater and some of the best attractions obtainable will be offered to the patrons.

The Delmonicos. There does not seem to be another family in the United States connected with "The Delmonico" as much as the Delmonicos. Originally common Italian folks downtown in old New York, they have steadily moved up town and have grown rich and famous. Everything that the Delmonicos do or say is a matter of interest all over the United States. No other people in their line are so generously and gratuitously advertised. The old original Delmonicos must have all gone beyond the river by this time. The Mr. Charles E. Delmonico, who lives in Paris every body is curious, is not a real Delmonico, but a Crist, a relative who has adopted the name. Still, the name Delmonico shines on as illustrious as ever, and heaven knows how many hotels and restaurants have adopted it. The Delmonico family has given us such well-known plays as "Miss Dynamite," "The Prodigious Father" and "Innocent as a Lamb." Mr. Townsend's latest success was "Chimble Fadden," which was presented here last season and made such a favorable impression.

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ARIZONA'S NEW GOVERNOR.

(From the Phoenix Republican.)

Myron H. McCord is governor of Arizona. He has not taken his seat as chief executive of the Territory, but that is only a question of a railroad time between Washington and Phoenix.

After one of the most bitter struggles in the history of the country, the man who, from the start, was practically the smallest member of the Territory, is, at last, victorious. On May 19 the President appointed Mr. McCord governor of Arizona. Then began a series of proceedings that, for discreditable, have no parallel in political annals. The long and bitter opposition to the appointment was everywhere met by the opposition to the confirmation. The small coterie of Republicans who from the first opposed Mr. McCord did so from purely personal motives. They were profiting by the present administration and were loath to relinquish their hold. They were neither Republicans enough nor honest enough to abide by the will of the majority. They did not hesitate at perjury to gain their ends.

It was not until after Mr. McCord was appointed that they learned that the various candidates whom they had supported had never been considered by the President. Still they were not satisfied. No sooner was the appointment announced than the present Democratic administration, which appeared to have been taking no part in the struggle, began to show itself. The attorney general of the Territory was dispatched to Washington to make charges against Mr. McCord with the hope of defeating the confirmation. These charges, which were wholly untrue, were made, and had been fully investigated by the President and discarded as reflecting in no way upon Mr. McCord. The Senate Committee on Territories, however, was obliged to listen to these disgusting preparations, and thus a prompt confirmation was prevented. The committee remained in Washington some ten days, openly managing this questionable opposition. While there he filed affidavits from prostitutes and convicts forwarded him from Arizona, reflecting upon the honor of Mr. McCord.

All these things were done in their turn, and when he had run his course the attorney general came home. His place in Washington was taken by Dr. Evans, of this city, who was himself a candidate for the governorship of Arizona. Mr. Evans, the beginning of Mr. McCord's career, setting in collision with one Farish, who is the present territorial treasurer and who was the catalyst of the combined Democratic and Republican opposition in the Territory, continued to file charges in order to still further delay confirmation. These two worthless discovered a magnificent pair of horses—one from Massachusetts and one from Mississippi—who claimed to have known Mr. McCord in Wisconsin. They swore that he was guilty of pretty nearly every crime known to man, and were examined by the Senate Committee on Territories. They both admitted that they had lied. The committee then made a final unanimous report in favor of Mr. McCord's confirmation. Still the opposition would not be satisfied. They were playing for salaries and interest in territorial funds, and proposed to hang on.

They next prevailed on Pierce Evans, a discarded Republican politician and disappointed officeholder, who had in the past acted as chairman of the territorial central committee, to call a caucus of that committee for the purpose of asking the President to recall Mr. McCord's name. The meeting proved a fiasco, and came near breaking up in a row. This was the last card of the opposition. They had played for nothing but a caucus, and the Phoenix Herald, their organ, "laid down" and prepared to submit to the inevitable. The many weary weeks of delay had, however, served to interest certain Senators in behalf of the opposition. They continued to resist, and their resistance was confirmed by a substantial majority. And thus the struggle ends.

The new governor will soon arrive and take his seat. He is a man of ability and cannot fail to make a model governor. He has few equals as a political organizer and a man of affairs. He is a man of high character and high integrity. His appointment is not only acceptable to the Territory, but reflects credit upon the judgment of the President who has favored him from the start.

To the Republican the appointment is a source of much gratification. The paper became convinced long before Mr. McCord was chosen that he was the best man for the place, and on that basis has supported his candidacy from start to finish. Now that he is governor the Republican will view his public acts with interest and give credit where credit is due.

(From the Phoenix Gazette, Democratic.) The affidavit will soon come to an end, and Mr. H. McCord will return to Arizona and assume the position of governor of the Territory. Col. McCord had submitted to a long and arduous campaign, yet he has gone through it with a gentlemanly and will come back to Arizona with more genuine friends than any other man in the Territory; not pie hunter friends, but bona fide friends, men in every material way who will aid him in every material way. The Gazette supported Col. McCord for governor because we believe him to be a capable man, a man who has not only ability to conduct the high office of governor, but has the decency to be truthful to his friends. And for further truthfully be said that 60 per cent of the people of Arizona favor the appointment of Mr. H. McCord. He has made more warm personal friends than all the other aspirants combined, and he has more ability and capacity to fill the position than has the entire opposition.

The Size of Drops. Some persons would probably be surprised if they were told that one drop of water may be thirty-three and one-third times as large as another drop of the same water. Most of the school children are still taught that a fluid ounce consists of sixty drops of water and no more. The truth is that a fluid ounce is composed of from 18 to 600 drops. It depends upon the sort of a vessel from which the water is dropped. Experiments proved that eighteen drops from the edge of a wide-mouthed dish made a fluid ounce. From a small-necked bottle a fluid ounce required 120 drops of the same water. From a pointed glass rod one-fortieth of an inch in diameter the drops were so small it required 600 to make a fluid ounce. These experiments show that drops are thirty-three and one-third times as large as another drop of the same water. The size of the drop depends upon the sort of a vessel employed and the rapidity of the fall. Hereafter, when asked for a drop of water, persons should designate the size of drop needed.—Chicago Chronicle.

A Lawless Governor. Colonel Bludo—Ah, see, Kun!, that Guyton Bradley has declared that a man who shoots down a citizen who lynch a scamp can't be punished. "Pretty Poll!" said the lady. "Can Poll talk?" "Poll," replied the Boston parrot, "can converse."—Indianapolis Journal.

PLEASES THE LABOR MEN

Leaders Rejoice at the Side-tracking of Powderly.

SOME EXPRESSIONS OF VIEWS

Emphatic Assurances That He Is Not Loyal to Their Cause—May Be Renominated, But His Rejection by the Senate Considered a Foregone Conclusion.

The action of the Immigration Committee yesterday in postponing further consideration of the nomination of Mr. Terence V. Powderly as commissioner general of immigration until the next session of Congress was very pleasing news to the labor leaders, especially those located at the National Capital who had been active in opposing his confirmation. Whether the local factions of labor can get together on any other question or not is very doubtful, but that they are all agreed that Mr. Powderly would not be an acceptable officer to the rank and file of the wage-earners of the United States is very evident.

From what has been said of Mr. Powderly by those who have been intimately connected with him for years there seems to be hardly any doubt that the opposition to him is well founded. The principal objections raised against him is that he has been untrue to the workers of the country, that he is not a true representative of the laboring classes of the country.

Mr. Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, and yesterday that he was much pleased with the action of the committee, and is of the opinion that it means the rejection of Mr. Powderly as commissioner of immigration. The committee, he thought, took this plan to get rid of a very disagreeable job, as it relieved it of all the responsibility in the matter. Mr. Gompers does not think that the committee will be so easily deceived by the promises of Mr. Powderly for the same position during the recess of Congress, for it is too plain that he is not a true representative of the laboring classes of the country.

In the latter part of June, after having a long interview with President McKinley on the subject of the nomination of Mr. Powderly, Mr. Gompers wrote Mr. McKinley a letter strongly opposing the nomination, saying that it would be a grave mistake.

We have not to say and say so you deem it advisable to appoint Mr. Powderly to any other position within your gift, but we seriously state that his nomination to the position of superintendent of immigration would not be regarded as a compliment to him or to the government, but rather as an affront to labor.

The Knights of Labor, through their general officers, have persistently opposed the confirmation of Mr. Powderly for the position of commissioner of immigration and labor bureau. Since its organization, nearly three years ago, the association has struggled along under most discouraging circumstances. Its friends, however, have not given up and it stood by it, and when its future seemed anything but bright, when it was facing the most serious financial trouble, stretched forth a hand and landed it safely. The confidence of these friends was well placed, for as was shown by the last quarterly report of the association, it is at last out of debt and on a paying basis.

The election of officers of Columbia Typographical Union, No. 101, which will take place during the coming week, is also being closely watched by the members of organized labor in the District, but more especially by the printers, who are immediately concerned. The race, so far as can be learned, will be a close one, none of the five aspirants for the presidency up to this time being confident of the result. Of course, each and every one of them is claiming a walkover, but when it is not that they have been so long in the campaign of any of the candidates, this claim of victory already won is not believed by the others, even if by the one who makes it.

It appears from what can be learned that politics will play a greater part in determining the choice than in the case of the Columbia Union at the coming election than ever before. There are five aspirants for the presidency, four being credited to the Government Printing Office, while the fifth is a down town man. Each of these has a strong following, and the race will be a close one. The line drawn between the two camps is not a very clear one, but it is there. The Government Printing Office candidate could defeat a down town man. In that event, however, it is claimed that the Government Printing Office vote could not be divided if success should be achieved. In the coming election it is plain that the vote of the Government Printing Office will be divided, but to what extent is not known. If reports are true, however, the employees will share their votes pretty evenly. In case this should be the result, the line drawn between the two camps is not a very clear one, but it is there. 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